

9 January 1852

My dear Professor

You may well be surprised at receiving no letter from me, and no acknowledgment of the parcel you have sent me. The fact is that in August last I had a note from the Secretary of the Smithsonian, apprising me of the package as having been directed to me at the Museum in Florence; receiving nothing, after some time I enquired at the Museum, and then at all the public offices that could possibly know something of the business, and at last wrote to Mr. Bell' Aquas, the agent of the Smithsonian in Milan, from whom I had no answer — and now poor fellow there is no more applying to him, as I have just seen in the papers that he has been found dead in one of the canals in

Milan, and to all appearances ~~undisturbed~~.  
I regret the more this deficiency in the  
communications with America by means  
of the Smithsonian, as I too have a  
book which I very much wish to send  
you (a work on the geographical botany  
of Germany) and don't know how to do  
it, I dare not trust it to the post,  
as once it happened to me that a parcel  
of books sent to Dr. Engelmann, tho'  
prepaid here by me, was charged to him  
at a preposterous rate, several dollars  
I believe.

My waiting month after month  
for the parcel has also been the reason  
for which I have not written to you  
as yet, to inform you of the sudden and  
most welcome change in my position  
which took place in the spring of last  
year, by my being appointed to the  
professorship of botany in the University

here in the directorship of the botanic  
gardens, since October I am established  
here with my family. Tho' Pisa is a  
small town, not to be compared to Florence  
for its resources, yet we are very well  
off under other respects, myself especially,  
as I have plenty of work to my liking,  
sufficient materials for study, and  
a position amongst the best to be had  
in Italy in our branch.

M. Bressani, whom you no doubt  
recollect, has again left Italy for the  
Indian Archipelago, with the intention  
of visiting New Guinea. He has left  
me the management of the Italian journal  
of botany.

I hope my dear Professor to hear  
from you ere long, and to have satis-  
factory news of the health of Mrs.  
Gray, to whom I beg to be respectfully  
remembered. With my best regards I  
remain  
Yours sincerely  
S. Carnel

P. G. If in my present abode I may be  
of any use to you in a botanical or any  
other way, pray reckon on my best  
endeavours.